

Tenders

CONSULAT DE FRANCE.—TENDERS will be received at the Office of the Ordnance, at Koonam, up to 3 p.m. on the 30th January, 1881, from persons willing to supply the said Government with—500,000 kilograms quality wheaten flour, 1,000,000 kilograms household wheaten flour. Full particulars may be obtained by applying at the Consulate daily (Saturdays excepted), between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sydney, December 18, 1880.

FOR SALE BY TENDER.
In the Insolvent Estate of James Kink.
CROAKER and CO. are instructed by the Official Assignee, to sell by tender, the undermentioned steam engine and boiler, viz:—
A 10 h.p. boiler, 1 h.p. boiler, 1 hydraulic ram, 1 California Creek, near

of the whole, and a quantity of blacksmith's and mining tools, and
The whole comprising a splendid plant for alluvial mining, and
will surely attract the attention of speculators.
Tenders will be received up to January, 1881, by the undersigned, who will afford all information, and convey intending purchasers to inspect the property.
CROAKER and CO., Auctioneers, Bathurst.
TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.
SYDNEY ARCADE COMPANY.
Endorsed TENDERS will be received on FRIDAY, 4th January, 1881, at ONE O'CLOCK, for the Erection of a new building in George-street, opposite Joint Stock Bank, through Mr. KILGUS.

Plans and specifications, and full particulars, may be obtained
 of the Office of
THOMAS ROWE, Architect,
 Vickers'-chambers, Pitt-street,
B U I L D E R S

TENDERS are hereby invited for the Erection of a Theatre,
 shops, Hotel, &c., at corner of Bathurst and Pitt streets, by
 H. Reynolds, Esq. Plans and specification to be seen at my
 office on and after **THURSDAY** next. Tenders to be delivered
 on the 4th January.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
BENJAMIN BACKHOUSE, Architect,
 263, George-street.

December 21.

NO BUILDERS—TENDERS are invited for the Erection and Completion of two Shops and Dwellings, in Walker-street, St. Leonards.

The works may be tendered for as follows:—

1. Excavating, Masonry, Drainage, and Brickwork, in one sum.
2. Carpenters and Joiners' Work, including building trades, in one sum.

Or the whole of the works may be included in one tender, &c. Tenders sent in on or before the 31st January, 1881.

D. W. RYAN, Architect, 141, Pitt-street, opp. City Bank.

NO BUILDERS—TENDERS are invited for the Erection and Completion of Shop and Residence, together with a three-story Hotel, in the City of Sydney.

The works may be tendered for as follows:—

Excavating, masonry, drainage, and brickwork in one run.
Carpenters' and joiners' work, including finishing trades, in co-
nsideration.
The whole of the works may be included in one tender, &c.
Tenders sent in on or before the 15th January, 1881.
D. W. RYAN, Architect.
141, Pitt-street, opposite City Bank.

TENDERS are invited for Building a **Shop and House**
in Sussex-street and Goulburn-street, plans and specifications
for which can be seen, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock
The lowest of the eligible tenders, if no tenders are to be de-
clined at or before noon on **FRIDAY**, the 17th January, 1881.
The lowest or any other tender not necessarily accepted.
W. W. WARDELL, C.E., Architect.

Bell's chambers, 129, Pitt-street.
TENDERS will be received at this Office, addressed to the undersigned, till 11 a.m., on **TUESDAY, the 24th INSTANT**, for contract 21, **New House** to be erected in Gladsville. The Specifications may be seen at this office.
 GEO. C. EAMES, Chief Clerk.
 Roads Office, Sydney.
 December, 18, 1880.
TENDERS will be received up to 12 o'clock noon, on **FRIDAY, 24th instant**, for **Plastering, Plumbing, Gasfitting and Re-hanging**, for **New HOUSE** now being erected in **Stephens-street**, for **John Taylor**, Esq.
 For Plans and Specifications, apply to **Mr. James Reynolds**, on his work.

TENDERS invited until SATURDAY, 8th January, for Erection of Extensive three-storied **WAREHOUSE and SHOP** in George-street. Plans, specification, and full particulars at my office, 141, Pitt-street, opposite City Bank.

FERDINAND REUSS, Jun., Architect.

TENDERS for small Villa, North Harbour, to be sent in at noon, **FRIDAY** next.

CHARLES H. MAY, Jun., Architect,
corner George and Hunter streets.

TENDERS wanted for the right to sell **Temperance**

Refreshments in the Exhibition Building, Prince Albert park, on New Year's Night, benefit to the Widow and Orphans of the Canadian Militia. Tickets to be sent in before the 14th. PRINGLE, Pitt and King streets.

TENDERS.—SLATES. Blue American, 20 x 18 splendid sample, very cheap; also, Purple Bangor, of sizes, W. CART, Railway Bridge.

TO BUILDERS.—TENDERS received until MON. DAY, 3rd January, 1881, for Erection of Shop at Peterham. H. REUSS, Architect, 100, Pitt-street.

TENDERS required for Excavating and Setting a 10-ton Weighbridge. Apply W. H. Smith and Sons, Smith's Mart.

TENDERS required for a brick Cottage, labour only
14, Valentine's-lane, Ulthmo.

TENDERS for Painting and Papering house, Stanley-
street. Apply M-Malou's Hotel, Woolloomooloo Bay.

TENDERS wanted, for the Plastering of a six-roomed
house. P. RYAN, Cook-street.

M. A. HUGHES and CO., 680, George-street, for
A. B. and D. B. Silk, Galathea, and Rae Coats, from 14.8.8.

B O U I N G D A Y.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD.

GREAT UNRESERVED LAND SALE.

ON THE GROUND,
ONLY \$3 DEPOSIT ON EACH BLOCK.
SEE AUCTION ADVERTISEMENT.
BATT, RODD, and FURVEL
WE EXCEL IN HATS AND BOYS' SUITS
HORDEIN'S, in PITT-STREET. (Don't forget.)
FURVEL'S EXHIBITION OF XMAS CARDS
NOVELTIES, and BOOKS, now open. Admission free.
Thousands visit it daily. Don't fail to see the lovely ones.

Donors' Hall.

MY LOVE.

General Merchandise.

EX FARRAMATTA and LA HOGUE,
FINEST REAL YORK and CUMBERLAND HAM.

These Hams are of the very finest quality, and being specially imported in the cabins of the ships, without ever having been packed, they retain their distinctive and delicate flavor, which is absorbed by the salt in the ordinary mode of packing. For

PEATE and HARCOURT.
EX LIGURIA and FOTOSI,
FINEST REAL CHESHIRE and NORTH WILTS
CHEESE.
 These Cheeses were selected by our senior in the London market
 and forwarded by Great Eastern. They will be found superior
 to any seen here for a long time
PEATE and HARCOURT.
FRUITS, &c., FOR CHRISTMAS, EX BOKHARA.
 French Muscatels in quarters, halves, and boxes; fancy and plain
 finest Piuma, 1 lb., 2 lb., and 4 lb. jars

W. & B. BEG to call attention to our extensive stock of superior Alea, Whisk, Spirits, Liqueurs, &c., which we import direct from the first houses in Europe, especially for the requirements of our particular business, and being brought upon the best terms, enables us to offer a superior article at the lowest cost :-
WHERRY, good ordinary to very choicest Amontillado

PORT, good to very finest "Old Duke"
CLARETS, Vin Ordinaire to Chateau Margaux, &c.
COGNAC, Hennessy and 1862 Narbonne
Bordeaux, Volnay and Chambertin
Bordeaux, Mouton, Mouton, Pommery and Grasse, Du
Montebello, Mouton, Krag, Hodeheim, J. de Montebello,
De Loney, Jules Mumm's, Piper's, Foster's extra dry,
Richer's, and Imperial.
BRANDY, Hennessy's 3 Star and V.O., Sazerac's 1 and
2 Star, and V.O. Martell's 1 and 2 Star, Fortier, Prunier's
1848 and 1863, Grandclark and Albert's.
WHISKY—Highland Blend, Royal Blend, Lorne, Old High-
land, Rob Roy, Mac's 1 and 2 Star, Kinahan's L.L. and

LIQUEURS.—Curaçao, Norosa, Maraschino, Hering's Cherry Brandy, Abeline Vermont, Angostura and Calypso Bitters.

COLONIAL WINES.—Fallo's, Eittamogeb, Porphyry, and all best brands at cellar prices.

REFRIGERATED WATER.—Scoville's, English and Colonial Soda Lemonade, Seltzer, Poiana, and Tonic. Also, Curry's Belfast Ginger Ale.

PEATE and HARCOURT,
Grocers and Wine Merchants,
252, GEORGE-STREET.

ANGLO-BAVARIAN ALE

**FIRST PRIZE VIENNA EXHIBITION, 1873.
GOLD MEDAL PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1875
FIRST PRIZE SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,
— 1879.**

The Anglo-Bavarian Ale, which is now admittedly the best
brand imported, is specially suitable for races or picnic parties, as
it maintains its clearness and excellence of condition notwithstanding
the shaking it would necessarily be subjected to. To be had
at all the principal hotels, through any wine merchant, or
from

**PEATE and HARCOURT,
Sole Agents for New South Wales,
352, GEORGE-STREET,
Sydney.**

ON SALE by the undersigned, **ROBERT LOUIS GIBSON**,
Wattle Bark, Tasmanian Oats, Chaff, Rye, Wheat, Potatoes,
Beans, Oatmeal, Linseed, Flour, Bran, Peas, Maize, Hay,
Potatoes, Onions, Butter, Cheese, Bacon, Ham.
TATE BROS.
116, Bazaar-street.

VANITY FAIR. VANITY FAIR.

CIGARETTE SMOKERS
should observe that the words
"VANITY FAIR"
are printed on every cigarette, so none of them are genuine.
PIFE SMOKERS
cannot better than use

VANITY FAIR TOBACCO.
It has a delicious fragrant aroma.
FELDHEIM, JACOBS, and CO, Melbourne.
Agents for Australia and New Zealand.

ART SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

[illegible]

Special Advertisements.

New South Wales at the head of Australia in the length of lines constructed, as is ahead already in the vastness of territory through which they pass.

The financial results of these operations are increasingly close attention, in satisfying them Mr. GOODHAR has made great improvement upon his previous results. He has tried to map out the colony the three great systems of the Northern, Western, and the Southern, in the same as the Victorian authorities have divided its territory into five systems. He has yet succeeded in separating the Northern from the Western, but has divided all the lines open into nine sections, and ascertained the revenue expenditure for each section separately. Want of data has prevented us several times completing a similar analysis, and we readily believe that it involved "a considerable expenditure of time and labour, but, however, incommensurate with the value of the information obtained." From this analysis it appears that the railways of suburban line between Sydney and Parramatta returned a dividend of 8-63 per cent, on capital invested, the 121 miles from Granville to Goulburn returned 4-08 per cent., the 175 miles from Goulburn to Wagga per cent. 3-92 per cent., the 131 miles from Parramatta to Bathurst 3-82 per cent.; 46 miles from Bathurst to Orange 3-45 per cent.; the 18 miles from Blacktown to Richmond left a loss of 1-99 per cent.; the 154 miles from Newcastle to Murrumbidgee gave a dividend of 4-09 per cent.; 62 miles from Murrumbidgee to Tamworth 2-02 per cent.; and the 41 miles from Werris Creek to Gundahra left a loss of 0-74 per cent. on its capital cost. Here are results of the greatest value in guiding the management of our railways. We have no means of making Mr. GOODHAR'S analysis; but assuming it correct in its principles, there is at least one modification suggested by their location. The traffic from the newly opened lines helps to swell the returns for the rest; and all lines must pay before they really they are used up to the extent of their capacity. Extensions may be premature, some of those in New Zealand, and efforts may be too low, as they are for some colonies in all the colonies. A certain proportion is always to be expected on new extensions, until the trade has settled into its new channels, and population has time to follow the railway. At the very outset railway traffic reduces the cost to about one-fourth rate by coach and dray, upon the scale in force in this colony, still leaving a margin for the saving of time. Taken in conjunction with the proof now submitted the Commissioner that on some of the extensions the gross revenue is less than the working expenses, leaving nothing for interest, this reduction in cost and saving in time would check the demand for greater reductions with which the department is perpetually besieged whenever a line reaches a new terminus.

On the whole railway systems of the colony net earnings are given at 3-05 on the total capital, and 3-34 on the capital in lines open for traffic. This is a smaller dividend ever before since the year 1871, as our admirable coloured diagrams appended to report clearly shows. Less than an average of 3 per cent. leaves an unnecessary loss to the public, even upon its present rate of borrowing. When the country is occupied by an industrious population we have no doubt the ways of the colony will be one of the most magnificent national properties in the world, will offer facilities of carriage such as is nowhere else. Skill, care, and economical administration will hasten the advent of so desirable an era.

The youths who fired a volley of leaden bullets from catapults at a Chinese, and destroyed one of his eyes, have been acquitted by the Central Criminal Court at Melbourne. The act was not denied, but the defence was that the hurt was inflicted accidentally. The youths are said to be respectably connected; and their parents were willing to give compensation. This is a remarkable result of remarkable proceedings. It is not easy to see where the question of compensation comes in. Can the parents of these boys compensate society for the evil of encouraging larrikism? The Chinaman's interest in case is important enough, seeing that he lost the sight of one of his eyes; but the interest of the public is broader and deeper, and if a due regard had been paid to it these youths of respectable connections, by whom an example of bad manners should have been set to the roughs of the lower classes, would hardly have been allowed to escape unpunished. Larrikism is a detestable thing whatever class it may flourish, but it is one of the detestable when it is accompanied by respectable connections and the command of cash. Its origin is probably to be found in most cases, in defective domestic training and parental control during the years of early childhood; and whatever excuses may be pleaded in extenuation of such delinquencies amongst the poor, the well-to-do, who cannot excuse them, should be made to feel the effects of their neglect of duty. Neglect of duty in this direction is sometimes explained by vague references to the tendencies of the age, and to laxity of public opinion. If explanation be correct, how are these tendencies to be corrected, and by what means a better tone be given to society? Certainly not by hushing up offences committed by larrikins of a "superior" class, or by limiting them practical impunity, as in this case. If the respectable connections of the boys are not sufficiently sensible of disgrace attaching to their conduct, they will get at them is to make them feel disgrace that would attach to fit public punishment. There, perhaps, steps would be taken in time by parents and guardians to increase in early childhood those tendencies which they now will not take the time to trouble, even if they have a faint inclination to grapple. Dr. BADMAN remarked the other day, that "there was nothing in the world more contemptible, and at the same time more formidable, than a young man brought up to be able to spend plenty of time and money, and yet not to have a sufficiently educated brain to know how his leisure should be bestowed;" but the same animal in a stage preliminary to manhood is apt to be even more reckless, and if unrestrained by the arm of the law, more likely to commit acts of cruelty and vulgar mischief. No one, perhaps, can fully understand the motives behind the action of the jury in the Melbourne Criminal Court was influenced; but if the result of accidental injury was accented where

ALBURY. WEDNESDAY

A large and influential meeting was held this afternoon to consider what steps should be taken to secure a share of the vote for water supply to country towns. It was decided to ask Mr. George Day to telegraph the Minister for Works inquiring what progress had been made in the matter of the Albury water supply.

DISASTROUS RAILWAY COLLISION.
LONDON, DEC. 22.
A disastrous railway collision took place
yesternight, between two trains on the
Midland Leeds line. At the time of the col-
lision one train was full of passengers, and

Midland trade line. At the time of the collision one train was full of passengers, and no less than fifty casualties are reported.

CAPE TOWN AFFAIRS BEFORE THE CABINET.

LONDON, Dec. 22.

A meeting of the Cabinet was held yesterday, immediately after the receipt of intelligence from Cape Town regarding the seizure of Heidelberg by the Boers. It was officially decided that assistance should at once be sent to the Colonial troops at present in the Transvaal, and orders have been issued that a regiment should embark for Natal with the least possible delay.

VICTORIA.
MELBOURNE, WEDNESDAY
The Assembly sat till nearly 3 o'clock this morning and a long irregular dispute took place over the tobacco duties. Several members, led by Dr. L. L. Smith, up a stonewall policy; and Mr. Barry, at length recognizing the impossibility of proceeding, consented to adjournment. The adjournment question was amicably

COMMERCIAL.

The following are the latest commercial telegrams:

[illegible]

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

LITHGOW. WEDNESDAY.

A great amount of coal is leaving here just now, but the mines are stopped through a short supply of trucks. The booths and gates for the races realized £130 for the athletic sports. £51.

There are a number of visitors here from Sydney.

WELLINGTON.

WEDNESDAY.

The heat is intense. Last night there were thunder and lightning, but no rain. Harvesting is progressing and reports from all quarters are favourable. The railway bridge is getting on, but it will be many months before the train will cross it.

Sickness is very prevalent. The young and strong

are attacked by a slow and exhausting fever, with symptoms resembling those arising from sunstroke, which there have been several cases.

Very little preparation is apparent for Christmas neither the stores nor other places of business have provided any additional attraction, owing to the scarcity of cash.

BEEF WARRINA.

WEDNESDAY

The Boorooma polling returns show Mr. Barton, Mr. Olliffe nil. This finished the electorate, and left Mr. Russell Barton a good majority.

MENINDIE.

WEDNESDAY.

The weather here is excessively dry and hot. There has not been any rain for the last three months. The water is very limited, and the pasture dry and scarce. On Sunday the thermometer was 107° in the shade on Monday, 113°; on Tuesday, 115°; on Wednesday, 118°; and no signs of a change; nothing but hot winds. The navigation of the river is suspended, steamers stuck at various parts up and down the river.

Nearly 10,000 bales of wool passed down the river for Victoria and Victor Harbour within the last three weeks.

THE CHURCH FOR THE YEAR IS $\frac{1}{2}$ INCHES.

GOULBURN. WEDNESDAY

On Tuesday, a lad named Henry Clark, bringing a bag of copper ore from Poolwood, when descending the Big Hill, on the right side of Luggan, had occasion to pass a large wheel, which was attached to the horses bolted. Clark ran, and seizing the lead by the head, endeavoured to stop them, but failed and was knocked down, trampled upon, and sustained a comminuted fracture of the left leg below the knee, together with a fracture of the right arm. He was brought into the hospital and attended to by Dr. Davidson this afternoon, and is progressing favorably.

Yesterday, a man named Donnelly, was working at McEachen's farm, Gundry, when a quantity of hay was thrown at him. An iron bar struck him on the head, and inflicted a dangerous wound. He was taken to Mercer surgery, where the injury was attended to.

After three days' intense heat, a storm passed over the city yesterday afternoon, about half-past 3. Clouds of dense blackness, and rain, which poured down, cleared the air, and the sun shined brightly. The people walked in the streets. This was followed about 4 o'clock by a thunderstorm and a few refreshing showers. The weather has been intensely hot again to-day.

TEMORA, WEDNESDAY

A portion of the drillings from the borehole on Galadonian Reef assayed 90s. per ton at the Bank New South Wales. The remainder is now at the Messrs. Barnfield and Solomon have arranged with No. 4 North Manila Lead to erect steam pumping and puddling machinery on their claims, 40 loads in Tait, Hall, and Percy's gate 17 or after picking out the coarser pieces.

A Parnell defence fund is formed here. £25 subscribed at a preliminary meeting. The list remains open for one month.

WAGGA WAGGA, WEDNESDAY

Henry Wilkinson, committed on two charges murder at Albury, reached here yesterday. He is transferred to this place for safety. The Wagga Wagga Police are now in possession of the man tried before Judge Hargrave in April, 1870, for robbery under arms, and sentenced to ten years. I honor then remarked that prisoner had the worst sentence he had seen. Bart replied, "If I come again before you it will be for a far more serious offence."

The Council has ordered the starting point for the procession to be at the Palace to Esplanade.

During a performance at the Theatre Royal, last night, the gas suddenly went out, and it was a question of an hour before it could be relighted. Some confusion was caused meanwhile: but Mr. B. N. Jones, stage manager, quelled the audience. The incident was caused by a sudden change of the gas supply.

At the annual show of the Handsome Trophy presented to Messrs. Long and Co., which is now on view at the Exhibition, a seven-guinea trophy, and two prizes of five and three guineas each, were awarded to the association, valued at five guineas each, were given for the aggregate highest scorer, and best bowler and fielding respectively, in the International match between the New South Wales and the New Zealand teams. The New South Wales eleven will select a combined team for 20 Year's Day.

Mrs. Lewis has recovered from her indisposition. A State school class was examined at the Exhibition to-day, in the presence of the Education Jury.

A number of donations have been received from the Education for the Technological Museum of New South Wales.

At Maryborough, to-day, while a garolier named Gordon was waiting at the station to be conveyed to the city, he managed to get his hands loose from his handcuffs, and ran away. The troopers started in pursuit, fired two shots, and the man was re-arrested.

By a fall of about two hundred tons of stone at the Ellensborough mine, at Sandhurst, four men were imprisoned in the workings. They had plenty of air, but nothing could be got to them. Relys were started working to clear away the level, and they finished the cause of the accident is not yet ascertained. The miners were rescued with considerable difficulty. None had suffered any injury. There was a large crowd watching their rescue, and they were long cheered.

It is intended to place a temporary patch on the Sorata (s.), take her out of dock, and bring her up one of the piers.

Beautiful weather prevails.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
ADELAIDE, WEDNESDAY.

The Commissioner of Public Works returned from his visit to Port Lincoln this morning.

A meeting was held at the Town Hall to-day, to consider the extra duty placed on tobacco, and it decided that a deputation should wait upon Treasurer and request him to telegraph to the Sydney Government, asking them to reconsider the extra on tobacco.

It is stated that the directors of the Glenelg Holdfast Bay Railway Company have agreed to

The annual distribution of prizes at Prince Alfred College took place this afternoon. The head master, Mr. W. H. Chapple, read a highly satisfactory report.

A pensioner named Peter Ingila, aged 70, missing from Old Thebarton since Friday morning, was found dead on the beach a mile north of Grange Jetty to-day. It is supposed that he died of exhaustion.

The annual meeting of the Bushmen's Club was held this afternoon. The report showed that the insti-

tion was in a very satisfactory condition financially otherwise.

At St. Peter's Collegiate School, this morning, Governor distributed prizes.

Typhoid fever still exists at Port Augusta.

A fire broke out last night at Owen's Confection Factory, off Lindley street. The place was gutted, the fire is not yet extinguished. Owen let the pot on his stock lapse six months ago, and neglected reinsurance.

Weather still excessively hot.

OVERLAND PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

ALBURY, WEDNESDAY

The following have been booked:-

Sydney to Melbourne, December 20: Dr. and Mrs. Miss Stoe, Mrs. and Mrs. Brownlow and 2 children, Mr. Ross Connors, Miss Refit, Sir George Verdon, Mrs. Figg, Mrs. Malby, Mrs. Webb (4), Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Reeve, Brown, Shollern, Phillips (3), Callas, Qualls (2), Green, Barker, Colahan (2), Munro, Refit, Qualls, Munday, Reighran, Grandey (2), Titch, Anderson (2), Macdonald (2), Mason, Nisbet (2), Stevenson, Pender, Flattman, Broad, Gibb, Henderson, Japes, Forskers, Broadoul (4), Blanche (3), Gordon sandover (2), M'Dougall, Lee, Lush, Thoun.

[illegible]

SPIRITUALISM.—From a return published by the *Spiritualist* it appears that in 91 different towns (not counting the cities of New York and London) the number of Spiritualists is 3920. There are 444 male and 348 female Spiritualists. Of these, 199 are "circles," of which 33 are public; 4 spiritual schools, 3 of which divide between 69 scholars. Study circles have 1476 members, having a total of members enrolled, and an average total attendance at 100.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT "STELLA.")

rattle over the Volga, near Syzran. It has been built by the Oransburg Railway, is 1485 metres in length, has cost nearly £294,000, and has been made in three years, after the plans of Professor Beloubovsky, of Petersburg; it rests on nineteen arches. The Russian papers are boasting that neither England, France, Germany, nor even America, has ever built so long a bridge.

The reports that Russia may also boast of possessing more horses than any other country, a fact partly applicable by her enormous extent of surface. Of the world's horse record statistics give as follows: Austria, 1,367,000; Hungary, 2,179,000; Spain, 3,000,000; Germany, 3,352,000; Great Britain & Ireland, 2,255,000; Turkey, 1,000,000; United States, 2,004,000; Argentina, 2,072,000; Argentine Republic, 4,000,000; Uruguay, 600,000; Russia, the enormous number of 21,300,000.

The falling off of the wine crop in France and Switzerland is calling attention to the wines of Transcaucasia, till lately confined to their native valleys, the lack of communications, but now being drunk extensively all over the Empire. The lists of vineyards planted during the last century have probably reached those of France, but have not yet been brought to such quality that would enable them to compete with the higher classes of French wines. A strong company is now being formed for introducing Caucasian vineyards; French capitalists being at the head of the attempt. In some districts, especially in the neighbourhood of that region to which equality of climate with the best French varieties.

A French explorer, however, M. Leonty, who is on the banks of the Niger, has written home to say that he has just discovered a magnificent vine, hardy, abundant, of easy cultivation, its fruits tubercles or perennials, its branches annual, its root large and woody, its leaves small and darkish green. He is going and sends a quantity of the stocks for experiment planting in France, as a possible remedy against phylloxera.

Great complaints are now heard on all sides of the scarcity of game, there being apparently more grouse in the field than creatures to shoot at. The interest cold of our hunters, too, is another probable cause. The want of translation of the smaller species; but so many chasers are in the field that it would require a very heavy crop of game to give something to them all. The third President of the third French Republic is no great lover of field sport; and the Prince of Wales has just sent him the appropriate present of a handsome folding-pen, and four long-haired setters of pure English blood.

At the same time, the Emperor of Germany, having heard that Sultan Abdul-Hamid is fond of trout, sent him a hundred fine fish of that kind and a quantity of trout-spawn, from the German fish-breeding establishments. In return for which present the Sultan has presented the Emperor with a dozen Arab harem boys.

The fashionable folk of this city are beginning to get used to it, making up for the loss of the temperature, but certainly the Sultan and the religious orders need take a speedier re-assembling of the French Parliament, a large portion of the ornamental population will be flight again, remaining at chateaux and country seats until the political campaign is reopened. The grand business of the feminine half of returning gracefully is the laying in of new stockings; luxury is diffused here, and the ladies must keep up with its continuance. Dressmakers and milliners are consequently working day and night to get ready, at the quickest possible rate of speed, all the orders for miscellaneous elegancies now pouring in upon them.

The "make" of the new dresses does not differ much from the styles that have been worn for a year past, except that the highest and most elegant gowns are becoming tired of the tightening which it ruled so tyrannously for some months, and are thrown aside the bands and ties that have been displaying much of the contour of the female form (as modified by corsets and padding), and interfering so much with feminine locomotion.

Fashions, like oceans of small platings, are like fountains, continue in vogue; but the latter will gradually disappear as the rich brocade tissues now bent to this mart from Lyons and St. Etienne take the place of the flimsier tissue that have been in favour of late years. The variety of these new goods includes gold, silver, platinum, are woven into the richest designs as lavishly as silk; luxury is diffused everywhere, the latest make materials employed producing a single piece of goods, which is the predominant one. A tinge of Orientalism is well admired; Persian, Indian, Chinese, and Egyptian stuffs (or their French imitations) being sought after; also rich fabrics such as velvet displayed in the paintings of two or three of the artist's little canvas put up at the highest price. Costume falls away, imitating the style of some particular reign epoch; say Henri II., Louis XIII., Louis XIV., Louis XV., his unfortunate son, the Directory, First Empire and so on. This new fancy causes an ordinary evening party or reception to present something of brilliant and amusing appearance of a more brilliant nature, but it has lost much of its value of being extremely costly, such faithful imitations of other days can only be sported a few times, so that much of the costly make-up is necessarily lost to its possessor. With every new season a lady's fashionable outfit is found to have become still more costly than with the last, but who can venture to say that the limit of extravagance has been reached at last?

Twenty years ago, a thousand francs was (rightly thought) deemed to be "richly dear" for a dress; it is now that sum is often paid for a wrapper, people of colossal fortunes, this extravagant abuse money that might be expended by them with less profit to the world, and more satisfaction for themselves, but what shall be said of it in cases in which wife's dress and ornaments cost many times the entire income of the husband!

The fashion of wearing rings and twists of silver, diamonds, pearls, and rubies, has been somewhat little persists; but the newest fancy is to wear a little metal animal, in these metals, in diamond or other stone, as a "luck-bringer." Elephants of gold, with ruby eyes, have been much in favour; but the newest favourite in this line is tiny golden pig, beautifully carved, highly ornamented, and set with stones, the owner engraving the "R. E." and some figure on the public buildings (*République Française*); this little pig is, of course, only worn by the friends of the Monarchy or the Empire, and is held in abomination by the ladies whose husbands flourish under the present regime.

While the person of an elegant Parisian adorned with jewels of old or new styles is much admired, the *salon* is furnished and ordered after the same tendency. Embroideries, oriental nicknacks, carpets, and hangings, give richness and novelty to the room, from which, it is needless to say everything like the former "set" of chairs and sofas "all to match," has long been banished, every article having its own design, while, happily, several of all sorts are on the great art of the day, being to be bought together only the objects which, while completely distinct, are yet harmonious, and concur to the general effect. The boudoir is devoted to the idea of heterogeneity; it is here that we are to find the new palette picture, the water colour drawing on satin, elegant object of plush, the quaint old timepieces, coloured bronze arabesques, shells, ivory, mother-of-pearl, porcelains, shagreen, shark, and other exquisite "skins," with their designs in silk, gunmetal, etc., adapted to an infinity of elegant uses, the writing-table, clock, and the latest novelties in way of photo frames of filigree metal, painted leather, or wood.

The great larder for the dining-room is to be filled with English china, English knives, glass, and ornaments: Dutch table linen, and old-fashioned crockery, tables, and buffets.

Where fortune allows, there is a tendency to furnish each separate room in the style that prevailed at a given epoch. Just now, a fifteenth century room, or sixteenth century one, are regarded as highly desirable for the glory of an "hotel" or a flat that pretends to be elegant. Rooms are being arranged accordingly, to the celebrities of the century, where owners have no "collection" of their own makes. The Norman, Provencal, and Auvergnat styles of furniture are to be brought into view, anything characteristic is considered acceptable.

Flowers without scent, and the splendid new paper displaying leaves almost as rich in various colours as flowers, are a necessary element of modern house adornment.

The practical Germans, however extravagantly so they may rival the Parisians when they enjoy *Parijs*, are far from emulating all this fanciful expense.

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in the old country, and of their parents. Open games are played all the year round, and boys are thrown more into each other's society. They, consequently, act more in concert, and do in combination what they would not attempt singly. For all that, explains a good deal of larrikinism. For all that, are not looked after as much as they should be, and institution of home control is the one principal remedy for the evil.

OUR BRISBANE LETTER.

BRISBANE, Dec. 1.

Separation Day was chiefly remarkable for the insignificant regatta and races which took place. Last week one had heard and read of nothing else, morning gallops of the neophytes, and the trials of bosting crews, had been eagerly chronicled day by day, and you were bored by finding that they formed staple of conversation wherever you might be. In result they were miserable performances, worthy of very small third-rate towns, perhaps, but not of a city of the magnitude of Brisbane. It is deplorable even that our young fellows should be so stupid as to neglect such athletic, in which I regret to say they are encouraged by the elaborate criticisms in the Press upon such every-day occurrences as a cricket or a football match between boys; but it is not when the long-talked-of events turn out to be so utterly below par. The attendance of the public at the Eaglefarm racecourse and at the Millers Point regatta were scanty; and, however, was almost entirely of course, since the Brisbane people on public holidays love to "catter" considerably to different parts of Northton Bay.

The Maryborough election has virtually proved a Ministerial victory, at which the Liberal party as may be supposed, are not altogether pleased. The constituency has for years been regarded as a Liberal stronghold—the backbone—as, in short, no Liberal could be elected there. But now, as we are about to be informed, they have now lost in a man who is nominally an independent member, is well-known to be at bottom a Ministerial candidate. Mr. H. Fair will not sit on the Opposition side. The leaders of the party can scarcely have managed matters carefully, the numbers voting show that some half-dozen supporters at the ballot-box would have changed the complexion of the result. The blame is laid upon the division between Mr. John Hurley, Burra Coal Mining representative, and late member, the Hon. John Douglas. As to Hurley, it is not to be denied that he managed to the Liberal interest in twain, and I have heard the Oppositionists express the belief that he offered his vote to the constituents for that very disreputable purpose. By the action of the Ministry. How the fact may be as to the result, this conclusion is far fetched; for although it is true that Mr. Hurley received its principal support in Parliament from the Ministerial side of the House, it is also that in his electioneering addresses he bitterly attacked at least one of the Ministers, and many of the Government men. At Maryborough, however, the result was a narrow one, Mr. Hurley receiving 362, and the successful candidate 375 votes. In the first scorching of defeat, ardent politicians of the Opposition may be pardoned for arriving at wrong conclusions. It may be true that Mr. Hurley spoiled the election for them, but it is no reason to doubt his bona fides in the matter. Mr. Douglas is sharply blamed by his old adversaries for sending for Mr. Fair. The first intimation of his resignation, and being thus taken unawares, allowed the enemy to forestall them. The usual conclusion, would have been for Mr. Douglas to insist at any rate the leader of the Opposition of his position beforehand, but no such intimation was given, the party to which he was a long-letted and old friend having been taken in.

The appointment of Mr. Morehead to the Post and Telegraph is announced, but three-fourths of the people you meet refuse to believe it. There is, however, no doubt upon the subject, and Mr. T. Ross, squatter, is mentioned as his successor in the reputation of the Mitchell electorate.

The appointment of Mr. George Lukin to the position of Under-Secretary for Mines; and when it became known at the end of the session that it was determined to abolish the latter office and place it in the War Department, and that in consequence of the change Mr. Lukin would have to leave the service, universal sympathy was felt for him, as for one who had been badly treated. The prompt appointment of Mr. Ross to the vacant position in the department shows that the Minister has been acting thoughtfully for the public good, and was ready to make amends for the earliest opportunity for loss sustained through departmental exigencies.

The public horsewhipping of an editor can only be justified on the double plea that it is deserved, and it is well done. Mr. Swanwick, barrister-at-law, member of the Legislative Assembly, and most efficient Under-Secretary for Mines; and when it became known at the end of the session that it was determined to abolish the latter office and place it in the War Department, and that in consequence of the change Mr. Lukin would have to leave the service, universal sympathy was felt for him, as for one who had been badly treated. The prompt appointment of Mr. Ross to the vacant position in the department shows that the Minister has been acting thoughtfully for the public good, and was ready to make amends for the earliest opportunity for loss sustained through departmental exigencies.

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Oils and none will touch you.
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Oils, and no damp or venomous insects will touch you.

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